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4<sup>th</sup> District, Oklahoma

*Reforming Washington  
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Legislative Digest

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

*The House will meet at 9:00 a.m. for Morning Hour  
and 10:00 a.m. for Legislative Business*

*Anticipated Floor Action:*

**H.Con.Res. 333—Providing for Placement of a Statue of Chief  
Washakie in Statuary Hall**

**H.Con. Res.344—Permitting Use of the Capitol Rotunda to Present the  
Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh**

**H.Con. Res. 312—Expressing the Sense of Congress that States Should More  
Closely Regulate Pawn and Title Loan Transactions**

**H.Res. 494—Expressing the Sense of the House that the Ohio State Motto is  
Constitutional and Courts Should Uphold It**

**S. 1515—Radiation Exposure Act Amendments of 1999**

**H.Res.\_\_Providing for House Concurrence with Senate Amendment to H.R.  
2614—"Certified Development Company Improvements Act of 2000"**

**H.R. 4608—Designating the "James H. Quillen United States Courthouse"**

**H.R. 809—Federal Protective Service Reform Act of 2000**

**H.R. 1959—Designating the "Adrian A. Spears Judicial Training Center"**

**H.R. 3323—Designating the "Floyd H. Flake Federal Building"**

**H.R. 4717—The Full and Fair Political Activity Disclosure Act of 2000  
(Possible Consideration)**

**H.R. 4733—FY 2001 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act**



**Bills Considered Under Suspension of the Rules**

**H. Con.Res. 333** provides that (1) the statue of Chief Washakie, provided by the people of Wyoming for placement in National Statuary Hall is accepted in the name of the United States, and the

thanks of the Congress are extended to the people of Wyoming for providing this commemoration of one of Wyoming's most eminent personages; (2) the State of Wyoming is authorized to use the rotunda of the Capitol on September 7, 2000, at 11:00 AM, for a presentation ceremony for the statue; and (3) the statue shall be displayed in the rotunda of the Capitol for a period of not more than 6 months, after which period the statue shall be moved to its permanent location in National Statuary Hall. The bill was introduced by Ms. Cubin on May 23, 2000 and was not considered by a committee.

**H.Con.Res. 344** authorizes the use of the Capitol rotunda on July 13, 2000, for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore M. Hesburgh.

Father Hesburgh was educated at Notre Dame and the Gregorian University in Rome where he received a bachelor of philosophy degree in 1939. He was ordained a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1943 and continued his studies at Catholic University, receiving his doctorate (S.T.C.) in 1945. He joined the Department of Religion at Notre Dame that same year and was named the 15<sup>th</sup> president of Notre Dame in June, 1952 at the age of 35. He stepped down as president on June 1, 1987 and went on to an active retirement in the fields of education and international studies.

Introduced by Mr. Roemer on June 6, 2000. Referred to the House Committee on House Administration on June 6, 2000.

**H. Con. Res. 312** expresses the sense of the Congress that states should more closely regulate title pawn transactions and forbid the imposition of high interest rates on title loans to consumers. Title loan lenders make title loans and title pawns to consumers by attaining the consumer's automobile title as collateral. These loans are often offered at high rates of interest some as high as 300 percent per year. Many borrowers are forced into deeper debt because of these exploitive lending practices and ignorance of applicable rates. Title loans and pawns prevent many consumers from holding jobs since default on the loan or pawn will result in repossession of their car resulting in the consumer's inability to get to and from work. Sixteen states have already taken measures to protect their citizens, consistent with traditional practice of U.S. laws against usurious financing rates and lending practices. The measure was introduced by Mr. Shaw on April 13, 2000 and was not considered by a committee.

**H.Res. 494** expresses the sense of the House that the Ohio State motto is constitutional and urges the courts to uphold its constitutionality. The Ohio State motto makes reference to God and Providence, which will continue to be accepted as long as the expressions are consistent with American tradition. A three-judge panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit found the Ohio State motto to be unconstitutional. The resolution states that the House supports the references to divine power in various national mottos as long as they are within the American tradition and within the Constitution. The official state motto of the State of Ohio, "With God All Things Are Possible," has been the State motto since 1959. H.Res. 494 was introduced by Mr. Oxley on May 24, 2000 and was not considered by a committee.

**S. 1515** makes a number of amendments to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) of 1990 (*P.L. 101-426*) in order to expand the compensation of benefits to include new forms of cancers and other diseases that have been linked to radiation exposure since the law was intro-

duced. Specifically the amendments add:

- Lung, brain, colon, ovary, bladder and salivary gland cancers to the list of those that are linked to radiation exposure
- specific non-cancer diseases such as silicosis to the list of those that are incorporated in the act
- Miners, millers and uranium ore transporters in 11 western states to the list of those able to seek compensation for illness related to radiation exposure related to the development of a nuclear defense program.

The bill changes RECA to offer compensation to people who were unintentionally exposed to radiation, nicknamed “downwinders.” The measure specifies that individuals must (1) have lived in certain Utah, Nevada and Arizona counties; (2) lived in these areas between January 15, 1951 and October 31, 1958, or July 1962; and (3) must have one of the lymphomas, leukemia, or primary cancers listed in the amended act (smokers are eligible for consideration). Those who lived in the areas for a minimum of one year are eligible for \$50,000 if they have a documented disease, and those who lived in areas that participated in atmospheric tests and have a documented disease are eligible for \$75,000.

S. 1515 also modifies RECA to increase the number of people available for compensation and to make it easier for them to apply. The bill makes those individuals who worked in aboveground, underground, or open-pit uranium mines, uranium mills, or individuals who transported uranium ore in one of eleven western states for a specified period of time between January, 1942 to December, 1972 eligible for \$100,00 in compensation. Some of the improvements in the amendments include:

- Expanding the number of states eligible for compensation
- Changing the number of months an individual who develops lung cancer, or other radiogenic pathologies must have worked to be eligible for compensation from 200 working level months (WLM) to 40 WLM
- Expanding the definition of “medical written documentation” to include: (1) arterial blood gases, (2) a chest x-ray read by two certified “B” readers, (3) an interpreted high resolution computer tomography scan (CAT, MRI or PET), (4) a qualified physicians written diagnosis, (5) pathology reports of tissue biopsies, and (6) pulmonary function tests

Also, the bill provides respect for Native American Law when processing claims. In addition, S. 1515 amends Title IV of the Public Health Services Act to authorize the HHS Secretary to make grants totaling \$20 million annually to cancer and community health centers, as well as state health department to carry out screening programs for eligible individuals, provide medical referrals, educate people on radiogenic cancers and prevention, and facilitate documentation for RECA claims. Lastly, the bill makes a number of small changes designed to make claims application and processing easier.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1515 would result in additional discretionary spending of about \$750 million over the 2000-2005 period. About \$650 million of this total would be for compensation payments to individuals for radiation exposure, and the remainder would be spent on HHS grant programs. Senator Hatch introduced S. 1515 on August 5, 1999. It passed by consent in the Senate on November 19, 1999 and referred to the House where the Judiciary Committee

reported it by voice vote on May 24, 2000.

**H.Res. \_\_\_\_** amends several amendments made by the Senate to H.R. 2614, which passed the House on August 2, 1999. H.R. 2614 amends the 1958 Small Business Investment Act (*P.L. 85-699*) to improve the Small Business Administration's 504 loan program. The 504 loan program offers small businesses long-term loans with fixed-rate financing for major fixed assets (e.g., land or buildings).

As it passed the House the bill increases the maximum regular loan/debenture from \$750,000 to \$1 million and the public policy loan/debenture from \$1 million to \$1.3 million. These increases reflect growth in inflation since the establishment of the current loan/debenture rate. The bill also makes women-owned businesses eligible for debentures.

The bill authorizes the SBA to continue to levy fees under the 504 program on a borrower, a Certified Development Company (CDC), and a participating bank until October 1, 2003. Under current law, these fees will sunset on October 1, 2000. Under the 504 program, the bank pays a one-time fee; however, the borrower and CDC pay a percentage of the outstanding balance annually. A CDC is a nonprofit corporation set up to contribute to community economic development. CDCs work with the Small Business Administration (SBA) and private-sector lenders to provide financing to small businesses.

The bill grants the Premier Certified Lends Program (PCLP) permanent status. Currently, the demonstration program is set to terminate at the end of FY 2000.

The bill requires the SBA to give any certified lender with contingent liability 90 days notice prior to including a defaulted loan in a bulk sale of loans. In addition, the bill prohibits the sale of any loan without permitting prospective purchasers to examine SBA records on the loan.

H.R. 2614 creates a program to allow CDCs to handle the liquidation of defaulted loans, replacing a pilot program authorized by the 1997 Small Business Reauthorization Act (*P.L. 105-135*). The creation of a permanent program allows the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to score savings achieved by the program when computing the subsidy rate for the 504 program. To participate in the liquidation program, a CDC must (1) have made at least 10 loans per year for the last three years and have at least one employee with two years of liquidation experience or (2) be a member of the Accredited Lenders Program with at least one employee with two years of liquidation experience. In addition, such CDCs must receive training in the liquidation of defaulted loans. PCLP participants and participants in the pilot program automatically qualify.

The liquidation program:

- \* grants CDCs the authority to litigate as necessary to foreclose and liquidate; however, the SBA may assume control of the litigation if it determines that the outcome will adversely affect SBA's management of the program or if SBA has additional legal remedies not available to the CDC;

- \* requires participants to submit a liquidation plan to the SBA for approval. The SBA has 15 days to approve, deny, or express concern with the plan. The SBA approval of routine liquidation

activities is not required;

- \* allows CDCs to purchase debts or loans with SBA approval (the SBA must respond to such a request within 15 days);

- \* requires CDCs to seek SBA approval of workout plans (the SBA must respond to such a request within 15 days); and

- \* allows CDCs to compromise debts or loans with SBA approval (the SBA must grant, deny, or explain such approval within 15 days).

### **Amendments Made by the Senate:**

When the Senate considered H.R. 2614 it added four amendments to the bill. The Small Business Committee disagrees with three of these amendments, and H.Res. \_\_\_\_ will strike them from the bill. These amendments are:

(1) A provision the Senate added to H.R. 2614 that would mandate the issuance of certain 504 licenses within 21 days of enactment unless the Administration acted upon them prior to that date. The resolution will strike this amendment was stricken because the Small Business Committee does not wish to set a precedent regarding legislation mandating the issuance of licenses for guaranteed lenders.

(2) The Senate also chose to offer an amendment to transfer certain funds to the 7(a) loan program. This amendment is stricken because it violates pay-as-you-go provisions under the 1974 Budget Act. The funds transferred have different outlay rates from the 7(a) program.

(3) An amendment change certain provisions in the HUBZones program regarding eligibility, which was stricken because it is not relevant to bill.

(4) An amendment containing authorizing language and authorization levels for the 504 program for the next three years was kept because the authorization does not affect discretionary spending because the 504 program has a zero subsidy rate. The amendment authorizes the program at: \$4 billion for FY 2001, \$5 billion for FY 2000, and \$6 billion for FY 2003.

H.R. 2614 passed the House on August 2, 1999 and was amended and passed the Senate by unanimous consent on June 14, 2000.

**H.R.4608** designates the United States courthouse located at 220 West Depot Street in Greeneville, Tennessee, as the 'James H. Quillen United States Courthouse'. Elected a United States Congressman in 1962, James H. "Jimmy" Quillen represented the first district in Tennessee for 34 years, retiring in 1996. He has been described as a politician who was more interested in getting things accomplished for his district and his constituents than he was in playing partisan politics. He helped to establish what is now the James H. Quillen College of Medicine at Eastern Tennessee University. In 1995, Quillen was named the first-ever House committee chairman *emeritus*, when he was given that title as Chairman of the Rules Committee. The bill was introduced by Mr. Jenkins on June 8, 2000 and was reported from the Transportation Committee on June 22, 2000.

**H.R. 809**, the Federal Protective Service Reform Act of 2000, amends the original Act of June 1, 1948, giving the special police force of the General Services Administration (GSA), which is called the Federal Protective Service (FPS), expanded powers. The bill extends the jurisdiction of those special policemen to a radius of 500 feet from any federal property. In the area around the federal property, the special officers will have the same power as state and local law enforcement people have in that region. This means that special officers in the GSA will be able to carry firearms, petition Federal courts for arrest and search warrants, make arrests without a warrant, make investigations on and off the property, and work with other law enforcement personnel to solve crimes and share intelligence information. Special investigative agents within the GSA will have the same authority as police officers both on and off the federal property. The act also increases the maximum penalty for violations committed on federal property.

This bill authorizes the GSA Administrator to establish the Federal Protective Service (FPS) as a separate operating service of the organization. The FPS will be chaired by an administrator appointed Commissioner who has had 5 or more years of command or supervisory law enforcement experience. This Commissioner will assist the GSA Administrator, be the principal U.S. law enforcement officer and security official on federal property, assist other Federal, State and local policing authorities when requested, and work closely with the Commissioner of the Public Buildings Service to protect federal property. This bill also dictates that FPS officer and investigator pay be similar to what is given to U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division members.

One year after the Act comes into effect, the Administrator must have at least 730 full-time police officers in the FPS force. This number cannot be reduced unless specifically authorized by law. Within this one-year period, the Controller General must carry out a study that will determine the feasibility of merging all building security forces of the executive branch within and under the FPS's supervision. The bill requires that the newly created FPS Commissioner determine criteria for hiring and training security personnel for federal property. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 809 would increase the FPS's costs by a total of about \$10 million over the 2001-2005 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Because enacting the bill could affect direct spending and receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply; however, CBO estimates that any impact on direct spending and receipts would not be significant.

The bill was introduced by Mr. Traficant on February 23, 1999 and reported by voice vote by the Transportation Committee on June 14, 2000.

**H.R. 1959** designates the Federal building located at 743 East Durango Boulevard in San Antonio, Texas, as the Adrian A. Spears Judicial Training Center. Judge Adrian Spears moved to San Antonio in 1937 after practicing law for three years in South Carolina. He practiced there until 1961, when he was appointed a U.S. District Judge. He became Chief Judge of the Western District in Texas in 1962 and held that post until 1979. Current law prohibits anyone from serving in that capacity for more than seven years, so the 17 years he served as Chief Judge is not likely to be surpassed by anyone. When he retired from the bench in 1982 he took a position as Vice President of Tetco, a Texas oil company. Judge Spears passed away on May 9, 1991. The bill was introduced by Mr. Gonzales on May 23, 2000 and was reported from the Transportation Committee by voice vote on June 22, 2000.

**H.R. 3323** designates the Federal building located at 158-15 Liberty Avenue in Jamaica, Queens, New York, as the “Floyd H. Flake Federal Building.” Floyd H. Flake served with distinction as a New York Congressman of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1986 until his resignation in 1997. While in office he sponsored legislative initiatives to revitalize urban, commercial and residential areas. Mr. Flake received the Doctor of Ministry Degree from the United Theological Seminary in Ohio and has acted as senior pastor of the 10,000-member Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church in Jamaica, Queens, New York for the past 21 years. In this role, Mr. Flake has become one of the nation’s most productive people regarding religious and urban development institutions. The bill was introduced by Mr. Meeks on November 10, 1999 and was reported from the Transportation Committee by voice vote on June 22, 2000.



## **Bills Considered Under a Rule**

### **H.R. 4733—FY 2001 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act**

**Floor Situation:** The House is scheduled to consider H.R. 4733 as its last order of business today. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted an open rule providing for one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Appropriations Committee. The rule waives House rules requiring that (1) committee reports be available for three days before consideration; (2) prohibit unauthorized legislative provisions in an appropriations bill; and (3) prohibit a tax or tariff provision in a bill not reported by a committee with jurisdiction over revenue measures. Additionally, it provides that the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report to be offered only by a Member designated in the report shall be considered as read, debatable for 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and opponent. Also, the amendment will not be subject to amendment and will not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the whole. The rule accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. It permits the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

**Highlights:** H.R. 4733 appropriates \$21.7 billion in new budget authority for FY 2001 for the Department of Energy, Army Corps of Engineers, and related programs, \$546 million more than in FY 2000 and \$952 million less than the president’s request. The vast majority of the bill’s funding, \$17.3 billion, is allocated to various programs run by the Department of Energy (DOE), \$687 million more than the FY 2000 level and \$853 million less than the president’s request.

In addition, the measure appropriates \$4.1 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers, \$3 million less than in FY 2000 and \$60 million more than the president’s request, to maintain and expand the



nation's waterway, flood control, and irrigation infrastructure. Finally, the bill allocates \$770 million to the Interior Department, mostly for the Bureau of Reclamation, and \$108 million for related independent agencies.

This fiscal year, the subcommittee received two separate 302b allocations. One for non-defense activities, totaling \$8.9 billion, (\$220 million below FY 2000 levels and \$761 million below the president's request) and one for defense related activities totaling \$12.9 billion (\$756 million more than FY 2000 and \$191 million less than the president's request). Also, in the defense related activities allocation, this is the first time the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has been funded. It was created in last year's defense authorization to streamline the Department of Energy's authority structure so accountability could be established and to better safeguard our nation's nuclear secrets after the endemic security lapses reached a crescendo during the Chinese espionage investigation last year. The NNSA is responsible for maintaining the nuclear weapons stockpile, supporting international nonproliferation programs, and funds the naval reactor program.

H.R. 4733 includes a number of general provisions. Specifically, the measure (1) prohibits the use of pending appropriations from being used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation pending before Congress; (2) requires that agencies receiving funds from the bill to purchase only American-made products to the greatest possible extent; (3) extends for one-year the authority of the NRC to collect fees and charges to offset appropriated funds; and (4) prohibits the use of funds for proposing or issuing rules, regulations, decrees, or orders to implement or prepare to implement the Kyoto Protocol.

Enactment of H.R. 4733 will result in discretionary outlays of \$13.9 billion in FY 2001, \$6.7 billion in FY 2002, \$1.1 billion in FY 2003, \$89 million in FY 2004, and \$14 million in FY 2005 and beyond. The Appropriations Committee reported the bill by voice vote on June 20, 2000.

**Views:** The Republican Leadership supports passage of the legislation. An official Clinton Administration view was unavailable at press time.

#### **Amendment made in order:**

**Mr. Sherwood** will offer an amendment, debatable for 30 minutes, that replaces section 606 with the text of H.R. 2884 which passed the House by a 416-8 vote on April 12, 2000. This amendment amends the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to extend through FY 2003 the authorization of appropriations to manage and operate the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) and the authorities and funding for U.S. participation in the International Energy Agreement. Additionally, the amendment authorizes the Secretary of Energy to purchase oil from a marginal well at \$15 per barrel, adjusted for inflation, from amounts authorized to operate the SPR whenever the price of oil decreases to less than that amount.

The amendment authorizes the Secretary to establish, maintain, and operate a Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve (containing no more than two million barrels of petroleum distillate) in the Northeast. It also, states that the Reserve will not be considered to be an SPR component. It also restricts the release of Reserve petroleum distillate to: (1) a severe energy supply disruption; (2) a severe price increase; or (3) an emergency affecting the Northeast which the President determines to merit such release. Finally, the amendment directs the establishment of the Northeast Home



Heating Oil Reserve Account in the Treasury subsequent to the Secretary's decision to establish the Reserve. *Staff Contact: John Ormasa, x5-3731*

**Amendments:** The *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendments at press time:

**Mr. Andrews** may offer an amendment (#1) directing that none of the funds made available in this appropriation to be used to carry out the Delaware River Mainstream and Channel Deepening (Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania) project before June 1, 2001. *Contact: x5-6501*

**Mr. Brown (OH)** may offer an amendment (#2) to reduce funding for the Energy Supply account by \$2 million and increase funding for the same account by \$2 million. The Energy Supply account funds renewable energy resources; nuclear energy; environment, safety and health; and technical information management. *Contact: 5-3401*

**Mr. Foley** may offer an amendment (#3) to reduce funding for the Energy Supply account by \$22.5 million, increase it by \$15 million, and increase it again by \$7.5 million. The Energy Supply account funds renewable energy resources; nuclear energy; environment, safety and health; and technical information management. *Contact: 5-5792*

**Mr. Foley** may offer an amendment (#4) to reduce funding for the Energy Supply account by \$22.5 million, increase it by \$13 million, and increase it again by \$6 million. The Energy Supply account funds renewable energy resources; nuclear energy; environment, safety and health; and technical information management. *Contact: 5-5792*

**Mr. Hulshof** may offer an amendment (#5) to provide \$2 million for the Upper Mississippi River Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan, which was authorized by the enactment of the 1999 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), will be the first to focus on developing and implementing a system for integrated river management. Specifically, the Comprehensive Plan will develop an integrated strategy and implementation plan for: 1) flood control and flood damage reduction, 2) continued navigation, 3) improved management of nutrients and sediment, including bank erosion, 4) environmental stewardship, and 5) increased recreation opportunities in the Upper Mississippi and Illinois River basins. Funding for the Comprehensive Plan would be offset by a \$2 million decrease in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' General Expenses Account. *Staff Contact: Neil Caskey, x5-2956*

**Ms. Kelly** may offer an amendment (#6) that prohibits funding for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission from being used for the restart of operations at Indian Point 2 nuclear power facility in Buchanan, New York. *Staff Contact: Hick Curran, x5-5441*

**Ms. Kelly** may offer an amendment (#7) that prohibits funding for the restart of operations at Indian Point 2 nuclear power facility in Buchanan, New York, prior to the replacement of the plant's steam generators. *Staff Contact: Hick Curran, x5-5441*

**Mr. Kingston** may offer an amendment (#8) to allow funds dedicated to the Department of Energy Office of the Inspector General to be used to conduct a study to explore the possible sources of the recent gasoline price increases. *Contact: 5-5831*

**Mr. Kingston** may offer an amendment (#9) requiring the Secretary of Energy to submit a report to Congress, within 30 days of enactment, detailing the national energy strategy and any plans to address the escalating prices of gasoline. *Contact: 5-5831*

**Mr. Kingston** may offer an amendment (#10) prohibiting any funds from being used to pay salaries of DOE employees that refused to take an authorized lie detector test regarding the missing computer equipment at Los Alamos, New Mexico. *Contact: 5-5831*

**Mr. Royce** may offer an amendment (#11) to transfer \$20 million from the Wind Energy System's account to the National Nuclear Security Administration's account for the purpose of bolstering security upgrades and counterintelligence programs. *Staff Contact: Ed Burrier, x5-4111*

**Mr. Visclosky** may offer an amendment (#12) that states that any limitation established by section 605, which prohibits the use of funds for proposing or issuing rules, regulations, decrees, or orders to implement or prepare to implement the Kyoto Protocol, will not apply to any activity otherwise authorized by law. *Staff Contact: John McNutt, x5-2461*

**Mr. Boehlert** may offer an amendment to clarify and revise language relating to the management and reporting of information regarding the wetlands permitting program. Specifically, the amendment (1) deletes reference to the number of pending individual permits at the end of FY 1999 as the performance measure of the PPMP for future years; (2) eases reporting and paperwork burdens by modifying the performance measures report to Congress from being quarterly to bi-annually; (3) expands the geographic scope of the one-year pilot program on tracking the processing of permits; (4) modifies the one-year pilot program requiring the Army Corps of Engineers to track *both* the date a permit application is received and the date the application is considered complete, as well as the reason the application is not considered complete upon submission; and (5) sunsets after three fiscal years the provision allowing appellants to keep verbatim records of appeals conference proceedings. *Staff Contact: David Goldston, x5-3665*

**Mr. Gekas** may offer an amendment to establish a bipartisan blue ribbon commission to investigate ways for the United States to become energy self-sufficient by 2010. The commission is instructed to explore all possible methods to make the country energy self-sufficient, whether it be utilizing the vast oil reserves that already exist or exploring alternative energy sources. *Staff Contact: Greg Helman, x5-4315*

**Messrs. Ryan and Kucinich** may offer an amendment to cut \$74 million from the Department of Energy's Weapons Activities, specifically, the National Ignition Facility (NIF), and shift \$37 million to DOE Defense Environmental Restoration and Waste Management program and \$37 million to debt reduction. *Staff Contact: Leah Braesch (Ryan) and Lori Ruk (Kucinich)*

**Messrs. Ryan and Kucinich** may offer an amendment to limit funds used for construction of the National Ignition Facility (NIF). Additionally, no funds in H.R. 4733 may be used for the NIF. *Staff Contact: Leah Braesch (Ryan) and Lori Ruk (Kucinich)*

**Mr. Saxton** may offer an amendment directing that none of the funds made available by this appropriation may be used for dredging the Delaware River Main Channel (New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware) until the Comptroller General completes a study to Congress of the economic and

environmental effects of the dredging no later than six months after enactment. *Staff Contact:* **Charlotte Skidmore, x5-4765**

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXIX, #18, June 25, 2000.

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